

PART 2: Group Work

Your group will be assigned to a specific interest group. The four interest groups are:

- Water utilities owners: FOR SELLING
- Politicians: FOR SELLING
- Environmentalists: AGAINST SELLING
- Scientists: YOU DECIDE based on facts!

Imagine that the water agreement between the states bordering the Great Lakes has expired, and Michigan has decided that one way to address the state's current economic crisis is to sell water to New Mexico. An overland pipeline will be built from Michigan to the southwest, paid for by New Mexico. Citizens of Michigan will vote on this in an upcoming election. WRITE A POSITION STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY YOUR POLITICAL GROUP AGREES OR DISAGREES WITH THIS PLAN. This statement should include arguments based on the perspective of each of the five ethical approaches. Make sure to include scientific information about the water cycle as appropriate.

We are against the selling of water from the Great Lakes. This plan could have severe consequences on the entire ecosystem that relies on the Great Lakes' fresh water. Also, unless this water is strictly regulated, corporations & politicians would sell all of it if allowed. Finally, there could just as easily be more responsible actions New Mexico could take to help their own situation out. From a Utilitarian standpoint, we want to maximize good towards the locals and local ecosystems, not utilities owners who don't care about the environment.

GROUP #: X
Student IDs of Members Present:
[REDACTED] A43398594
[REDACTED] A43012139
[REDACTED] A31630993

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For the common good of the people we should not sell water because with the water cycle, only 1% of the water in the Great Lakes is replenished each year. In the long run, selling the water will harm the people, less evaporation, temperature would change, wildlife also be harmed.
(DUCKS :)

T

GROUP #:
Student IDs of Members Present:
A39737915
A44013916
A39743811
A42185423

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As water utilities owner we believe the Great Lake water should be sold for the common good. It will provide efficient water sources to those in need while improving our declining economy and creating jobs. The Great Lakes is a natural reservoir that will replenish itself back to equilibrium.

S

GROUP #:
Student IDs of Members Present:
A43292970 A 43294133
A30127449
A43856550

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We are For selling Great Lakes water to New Mexico from the ethical principle of The Common Good. The scarcity of water makes New Mexico vulnerable so the Great Lakes should be willing to sell their water to also help our vulnerable state.

R

GROUP #:

Student IDs of Members Present:

A40711436 A39979826
A40994271
A40688663D

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Our position on the water agreement is to definitely go forward with it and take a more virtue approach towards the project. The reason we have chosen virtue is to benefit the economic crisis by providing more jobs for the state as well as bringing in more revenue.

Q

GROUP #: 2
Student IDs of Members Present:
A 43414990, A 43628397,
A 43361981, A 43143718

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We as politicians believe that it is in the best interest of the state of Michigan to sell the Great Lakes water. The Great Lakes are very big and at the rate we are going, the water cycle will continue to function properly and replenish itself. It is for the common good of the people in the US, particularly Michigan and New Mexico to have the water. Both states benefit. Michigan will gain money and New Mexico will gain water, which is vital. We will be mindful of the water cycle and precisely calculate the amount of water that can be removed without affecting the cycle of water and the vitality of the state of Michigan.

A39800329
A40543777

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As politicians we are in favor of selling the water in the Great Lakes to New Mexico. First, the sell will bring additional revenue to the state, which will in turn lead to job growth. Thus, the sell satisfies the common good by supplying unemployed Michiganians with income. Further, the sale won't violate ethical principles because in theory, the water is not owned by one particular state. In addition, due to the amount of water, Michigan won't suffer from supplying another state with a plentiful resource. Selling the water to New Mexico also provides New Mexico with a valuable resource, which again, satisfies the common good.

A43043320

A34590917 A41096672

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We disagree with selling water from the Great Lakes to New Mexico. For the common good of people today & for future generations we don't think that the water should be sold. By selling water, it is depleting an important natural resource. Also by taking water away from our climate, it could throw off our climate & change the water cycle. The Great Lakes are proven to be necessary resource that is extremely important to Michigan's natural environment

N

GROUP #:

Student IDs of Members Present:

A426629593
A41107889
S 42833012
A43637184

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We disagree with selling water to New Mexico because even though it would help the economy it would greatly increase the rate at which we use up our Great Lake water. It would throw off the water cycle, & also ruin the habitats of many animals who depend on the water in the Great Lakes.

or A42773599
Idon A34305310
Lev A43915317
A42383975
are:

M

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We here at Environmentalist Inc. find the proposal to sell water to New Mexico a disgusting and revolting idea. We base our opinions on the following facts. Firstly such a plan greatly harms Michigan. The loss of water would disrupt the ecosystem and cause harm to the aquatic life in the lakes. Such an agreement would not benefit the common good as food sources would decline and there could be a food shortage due to the disruption of the food chain web. With the loss of aquatic life there would inevitably be a imbalance in the ecosystem which would seriously harm Michigan and its interests. It would also cool Michigan's temperature due to lower water levels. There would also be less precipitation and that's just WRONG!

L

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A2204525

A43494348

A42065731

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We disagree with allowing Michigan to sell its water to New Mexico. By selling the water there could be several negative side effects, causing the water cycle to be thrown out of equilibrium and the great lakes water supply to become depleted.

GROUP #:
Student IDs of Members Present:
A43682453
A40461394 A43330797
A42627086

K

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As environmentalist we do not think that we should sell our fresh water to New Mexico. The building of the tunnel itself would disrupt people in other states and could cause a lot of harm. Also the water would deplete very quickly & water is not a renewable resource so it would not be fair or just in the long run for the people of Michigan. As the water in Michigan is sold, the value and economy will continue to devalue & hit the ground hard in the long run.

J

GROUP #:
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A4338416
A42254860
A42601752
A41009790

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As scientists, we do not believe we have the right to sell this water. Although it could possibly benefit the economy of Michigan, it would infringe upon the rights of the other states to the water and to a balanced water cycle. Removing enough water to sell to New Mexico could cause a change in the amount of water that evaporates and the amount of precipitation.

I

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A41696110
A40006739
A40840884

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As Environmentalists we are against selling the Great Lakes water in Michigan. From a utilitarian point of view, by removing the water and selling it elsewhere, we might be maximizing good, but it creates much more harm. It would disrupt the ecosystems connected to the Great Lakes which would cause harm to the area. While we would be able to sell the water, it would take away tourism from the lakes.

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For the Common Good: We choose NOT to pump Great Lakes water to New Mexico. First, we can establish that if we did pump the water, it would not solve the underlying problems behind water shortage — population growth, global warming, mismanagement of water use/consumption. The Lakes would eventually be drained completely and it's only a temporary solution. Pumping the water would severely impact the ecosystem and tourism/recreation. Even though it may create jobs, those would also be temporary and would not be worth the cost. The recharge may not cover what's being discharged.

6

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A 40659708
A 41398990
A 42235241

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Scientists - For ~~the~~ Utilitarianism & The Common Good -
We should sell the water BUT with some guidelines put in place. Those are:

- Can only sell at certain times as to not deplete the reservoir, ex.) In spring when runoff is high and we receive rain.
- Michigan workers should be able to be hired to build the pipeline & work to maintain it.
- Water should be taken from areas/lakes that receive more precipitation/runoff and have larger reservoirs more than other smaller lakes.

F

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A 43864729
A 42766836
A 42385484

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WE SUPPORT THE SALE OF THE WATER IN THE GREAT LAKES AND HAVE TAKEN A UTILITARIANISM APPROACH. THE REASON BEING IS THAT WE ARE MAXIMIZING THE GOOD BY CREATING PROFIT AND JOBS FOR THE STATE WHILE OTHER STATES ARE RECEIVING THE RESOURCES THEY NEED.

E

GROUP #: E

Student IDs of Members Present:

[REDACTED] A39228100

[REDACTED] A42190700

[REDACTED] A40518651

[REDACTED] 41803028

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In order to help the common good of the residents of Michigan AND New Mexico, we will sell New Mexico the water from our great lakes. By doing so, this will help the individuals in New Mexico that are most vulnerable due to their extreme lack of water. Not only will it help them, but this deal will also highly benefit Michigan's citizens in hopes of getting pulled out of the economic crisis we're currently in. These reservoirs will eventually re-new themselves & return back to equilibrium.

D

GROUP #:
Student IDs of Members Present:
A43570651 A4017778
A40627897 A37599308

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As water utilities owners, we believe there are many advantages to selling water to New Mexico. From the utilitarian perspective, selling the water will maximize economic benefit for people suffering in the State of Michigan as well as maximize water supply to the people suffering in New Mexico. ~~In accordance with~~ this will also maximize the number of citizens who will stay in the State of Michigan who will have jobs and minimize the number of people moving out to seek work. This agreement will also create a bond between the states in the case Michigan may need assistance in the future, minimizing bad situations for Michigan in the future.

Because Michigan's climate allows for a large amount of precipitation during all seasons, ~~which will allow~~ the Great Lakes ~~will~~ be replenished. Since New Mexico is experiencing a drought, there is an extreme lack of precipitation which puts a halt on the rest of the water cycle. There is no surface water to be evaporated into the air, and therefore no water vapor to condense into the clouds.

A42609057
A42483118
A42741352
A4226052

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Utilitarian: The state of Michigan would benefit from the capital and the jobs while also ~~at~~ maximizing the amount of water available to the people at a cheaper price.

Common Good: Michigan citizens would be the most vulnerable because we have one of the worst. The Southwest is also vulnerable because they are not able to access water. Both would benefit.

Rights: All people have the right to "a standard of living adequate" for them - including food, shelter and the likes. All people are entitled to water.

Fairness/Justice: Location should not decide who gets access to water and who does not - that would not be fair.

Virtue: In order to be a virtuous, helpful, honest and Compassionate we should share the water.

B

GROUP #:

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A4020629

A41427286

A43979706

A39963430

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POSITION

For the common good of the people, we believe the water in the Great Lakes should be approved to sell to New Mexico. As a vulnerable member in a society, New Mexico will greatly benefit from the selling of Great Lakes water. Along with this, Michigan's most vulnerable citizens could benefit from this approval as well. The creation of jobs could be very helpful in Michigan's poor economic conditions + the selling of water could put us in a better place economically as well. New Mexico as well as Michigan would benefit greatly with this approval.

A

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A41744376 A43573458

A41644022 A40246306

A40706302

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As politicians, we feel that due to Michigan's current economic state, that the water should be sold to New Mexico. The ethical approach of common good plays a large role in our decision in that selling the water could lead to economic growth in Michigan by receiving money from New Mexico and creating more jobs. This also helps the common good of the state and people of New Mexico by giving them an appropriate amount of freshwater as their freshwater resources are not as abundant as ours in the Great Lakes state.